



Crop Weather Report

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For the Week Ending:
April 1, 2007

Agricultural Summary

Montana received above normal precipitation for the week ending April 1st. Ekalaka had 2.27 inches of accumulated moisture for the week, the most in the state. On March 27th, Dillon, Wisdom, Townsend, Lewistown, and Havre set daily precipitation records of 0.55, 0.64, 0.24, 0.90, and 0.71 inches, respectively. Wisdom experienced 3.0 inches of snowfall on March 27th, setting a record for that date. Billings set a snowfall record of 7.5 inches on March 30th, breaking the old record of 3.7 inches for that date in 1989. Glendive had the high temperature of 80 degrees for the week, while Cascade had the low of 2 degrees. Topsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 80 percent, ahead of last year's 76 percent and last week's 65 percent. Subsoil moisture adequate and surplus is 56 percent, ahead of last year's 49 percent and last week's rating of 50 percent.

The weather outlook for April 9th through the 15th is for above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation east of the continental divide and for both above normal temperatures and precipitation west of the divide. Normal temperatures for this period in the state are for highs in the mid 40s to the mid 50s and for lows in the upper teens to the lower 30s.

Soil Moisture Condition	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Topsoil Moisture			
Very Short	2	11	4
Short	18	24	20
Adequate	71	60	70
Surplus	9	5	6
Subsoil Moisture			
Very Short	10	10	14
Short	34	40	37
Adequate	53	47	48
Surplus	3	3	1

Field Work Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Days Suitable for Field Work			
Days	2.8	n/a	2.0
Field Tillage Work in Progress			
None	74	n/a	87
Just Started	20	n/a	7
Well Underway	6	n/a	6

Field Crops Report

Warm weather has given producers an earlier opportunity to start planting spring crops. Recent rain and snowfall has substantially improved topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions. Forty-eight percent of winter wheat is greening and growing, ahead of last year's 9 percent. Winter wheat condition good and excellent is rated 70 percent compared with last year's 42 percent.

Crop Progress Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Winter Wheat - Condition			
Very poor	0	0	1
Poor	3	4	8
Fair	27	25	49
Good	57	61	36
Excellent	13	10	6
Winter Wheat – Spring Stages			
Still Dormant	13	31	49
Greening	39	55	42
Greening and Growing	48	14	9
Spring Wheat			
Planted	4	n/a	1
Barley			
Planted	9	n/a	5
Oats			
Planted	2	n/a	1

Livestock Report

Both moisture and warm weather have improved range and pasture feed conditions from a year ago. Reports indicate a few spring pastures have opened up and livestock are being moved to those pastures for grazing. Fewer cattle and sheep are receiving supplemental feed compared to last week. Sixty-two percent of calving and 39 percent of lambing are complete compared to 52 and 31 percent last week, respectively.

Livestock Table	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Range and Pasture Feed Condition			
Very poor	2	n/a	2
Poor	18	n/a	15
Fair	42	n/a	55
Good	29	n/a	24
Excellent	9	n/a	4
Receiving Supplemental Feed			
Cattle & Calves	89	93	90
Sheep & Lambs	91	92	93
Livestock Grazing			
Open	70	83	81
Difficult	15	6	10
Closed	15	11	9
Livestock Calving			
Calving Completed	62	52	61
Lambing Completed	39	31	43

Weather Information for the Week ending 04/01/2007

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